

# Rash skiers increase risk of avalanche

**By Brooke Adams**

Deseret News staff writer

SUNDANCE — Glistening slopes of untouched snow are luring skiers outside the boundaries at Sundance Ski Resort, where they're endangering their own lives as well as those of other people.

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*People keep going under the rope line at the ridge and skiing that area. That's incomprehensible to me when the word is out that we lost a life there.*

**Corey Child**  
Sundance publicist

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But other than confiscating ski passes, a Sundance spokesman says, there is little the resort can do to reckless skiers.

According to a Utah County or-



Please see **SKI** on B2

Although this avalanche in Slide Canyon was intentionally set off and endangered no one, skiers imperil lives by ignoring resort boundaries.



ders are new VISTA volunteers.

## I use own experiences others via volunteer group

were recruited for VISTA by the center's director, Debra Mair.

The Independent Living Center is one of four operated in Utah by the Association of Independent Living.

Eight of the volunteers will work with the centers. Twelve total will remain in Utah. The other 22 will work with literacy, family violence prevention, low-income housing, food and other projects in Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Alaska.

More than 100,000 Americans have served in VISTA since it started in 1964. The program is now operation by ACTION, a federal umbrella agency for volunteer programs.

To find out more, call 524-5411.

## gets new chief

The committee's principal activity is the sponsorship of a writing contest on local history — a contest that accepts entries in short story, poetry, anecdote and essay divisions — and publishes the winning compositions in "The Saga of the Sanpitch," a soft-cover, 100-page book that also contains early photographs. This is the contest's 25th anniversary, which has been titled "Silver Sunsets."

## service award

munity College

to languid suburb of young families. "There's a growing awareness on the part of institutions on how they can use their history as a benefit, a marketing device."

"Sandy — the First 100 Years," is due for publication March 1, in

Utah County, spurred by a state mandate that every county in Utah produce such a book in time for the state's 1996 centennial celebration.

### Costs to produce

Dick Adair, president of the

In West Jordan, a similar project is under way, City Councilman Max Hogan said. The effort is being researched by a volunteer committee headed by Bernarr Furse, the retired former state education administrator. Hogan

"You have to strike some middle ground," she said. "That's where the academic training comes in. I would think a person who tried to do a project like this but wasn't trained in history wouldn't be quite as successful."

# Volunteers are needed for classes on helping elderly remember numbers

By Lois M. Collins

Deseret News human services writer

He doesn't go to the gym any more, even though he's healthy and loves to exercise. He's too embarrassed. Sometimes, he can't remember his locker combination.

And don't even ask him to get money from the automatic teller machine. Chances are good that he'll get there and not remember his access code.

Such memory lapses become more common as people age. It has nothing to do with dementia and contrary to fears, it doesn't signal the beginning of a long slide downward.

"Older adults are living longer and as a result they're facing issues that are not just physical," said Dr. Robert Hill, associate professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Utah. "Changes that occur in the brain influence the ability to perform basic functions."

But memory is a skill that can be honed. And there are strategies to improve memory that are "simple, straightforward and powerful."

Hill and instructor Deanna

people remember numbers through a number-letter key," Foxley said.

Put simply, numbers are assigned letters that look like them. For instance, 1 is L. Those letters are then converted into words that have personal significance and are easy to remember.

"Numbers are more difficult to remember than verbal things," Foxley said. "So if we can translate numbers to verbal, that's good."

Common memory loss is particularly upsetting to older people because they "misinterpret an association with an incurable disease. They think there's nothing

they can do about it," Hill said. "And lapses get more frequent in late life."

Numbers are frustrating because they are increasingly essential to daily life. Want money from the bank? Learn your PIN. Need medical care? What's your Social Security number?

If the numbers can be translated to letters that are "committed to memory in an indelible sort of way, it can make you feel you can go out and do more things," Hill said.

There is no cost to participate in the training. To volunteer or find out more, call Hill at 581-7148 or 581-6212.

## SUIT

Continued from B1

the company refused to give her credit for her work and assigned her completed work to another designer to redo.

Nu Skin contends that some of the work Anderson did was good

Ishoy said Nu Skin's "discriminatory and retaliatory acts" forced her to quit.

The company contends Ishoy, a former manager of international projects, voluntarily quit.

• Loveless, a former partnership coordinator, says she was denied a promotion because she's a woman. The suit says she could not

## COURT

Continued from B1

his spine to dislocate from the base of his brain," he said. "It wouldn't be easy to dislocate the child's head. It would require a lot of force."

Asked how much force, he answered, "It's very difficult to quantify. It would be very violent."

He demonstrated on a doll how Christensen would have been held by the head and how his body would have been swung back and forth or side to side.

Walker said he's 99 percent certain that the injuries were non-accidental.

"This child is not (normally) exposed to this type of trauma unless someone did it to him."

any promotion because she was pregnant or because she informed anyone that she was pregnant."

• Montagnoli says she was scrutinized more closely than men were during the process to find a manager for voice-mail services.

Nu Skin contends Montagnoli does not have "extensive" communication experience, as her suit



*Continued from B1*

dinance, it is against the law for a person to ski into areas the county sheriff declares unsafe. The sheriff's office and Sundance have a written agreement outlining what areas the resort may close and under what conditions.

But the ordinance says nothing about people who ski onto public or private land outside a resort's boundary. Also, it doesn't give the ski patrol authority to designate closed areas.

"Nobody knows better than we do which areas up here are safe and which are not," said Corey Child, Sundance publicist.

The ordinance also lacks a specific penalty for breaking the law, although the county applies a class B misdemeanor penalty in such cases.

Sundance wants the county to adopt a tougher, more detailed ordinance to help curb the risky behavior, which seems to be a greater problem this year because of the heavy snowfall.

"It's opened up all our boundary areas that normally don't have snowfall on them," Child said.

For example, a pair of skiers recently rode the Arrowhead lift to the top west ridge of the resort and then skied into Slide Canyon. They traversed the slope to the Provo Canyon road, Child said.

Slide Canyon has earned its name. The area is prone to massive snow slides that have been known to cover the old Provo Canyon Road with snow as deep as 30 feet.

Another problem area is the Far

## Ordinances

Salt Lake and Summit counties have ski-area ordinances that allow the sheriff, Forest Service, National Park Service or ski patrol to close or designate any area as unsafe.

The ordinances also include a misdemeanor penalty of up to \$299 and six months in jail.

East Ridge within the resort. Earlier this year, a skier died when an avalanche broke from the ridge. Resort officials say the area was closed at the time the accident occurred.

The area remains closed. But neither the tragedy nor signs declaring the area closed are deterring some skiers, Child said.

"People keep going under the rope line at the ridge and skiing that area," Child said. "That's incomprehensible to me when the word is out that we lost a life there."

Since Jan. 1, members of the Sundance ski patrol have confiscated 12 season passes and an uncounted number of day passes from people who ventured outside the resort's boundary markers to ski untracked snow.

"We have a no-tolerance policy," Child said. "We don't give you your pass back in a week. When people break through those rope lines, they're putting themselves in danger as well as the ski patrol if they have to go rescue them if something goes wrong."

Most of the violators have been teenagers who ski into a closed

area and then re-enter the resort, Child said. However, a few adults have been caught in out-of-bounds areas.

In addition to taking away a skier's pass, patrol members escort the skier to the base of the resort, contact the sheriff's office and hold the skier until a deputy sheriff arrives.

Teenagers are referred to juvenile court, while adult cases are handled in Justice Court.

So far this winter, only one adult citation has crossed the desk of Deputy County Attorney Ben Davis. But the person is not being charged with violating the ski-area ordinance.

Davis plans to prosecute the skier on a disorderly conduct infraction for creating a "hazardous or physically offensive condition." The county also could use a state trespassing law to prosecute violators, Davis said.

The county prefers to base its prosecutions on state code, but the Utah Code doesn't include a provision related to violating a closure in a ski area.

"They (the county) need to look at rewriting or creating an ordinance just for the ski area," Child said. Sundance tried to get the county to adopt a more stringent ordinance about five years ago but was unsuccessful, Child said.

Sheriff Dave Bateman agrees the county's ordinance is "extremely cumbersome, and because of that it is very difficult to enforce."

The ordinance should include a specific penalty and outline a better procedure for determining closures, Bateman said.